

Committee Bill No. 678

General Assembly January Session, 2001

LCO No. 4163

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by: (HS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXPANSION OF THE CONNECTICUT PHARMACEUTICAL ASSISTANCE CONTRACT TO THE ELDERLY AND THE DISABLED PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-492 of the general statutes is 2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:
- 3 (a) Eligibility for participation in the program shall be limited to any 4 resident (1) who is sixty-five years of age or older or who is disabled, 5 (2) whose annual income, if unmarried, is less than [thirteen thousand eight hundred twenty thousand eight hundred seventy-five dollars, or whose annual income, if married, when combined with that of [his] 8 <u>such resident's</u> spouse is less than [sixteen thousand six hundred] 9 twenty-eight thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars, (3) who is not 10 insured under a policy which provides full or partial coverage for 11 prescription drugs once a deductible amount is met, and (4) on and 12 after September 15, 1991, who pays an annual twenty-five-dollar 13 registration fee to the Department of Social Services. On January 1, 14 1998, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall, by the adoption 15 of regulations in accordance with chapter 54, increase the income

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- 16 limits established under this subsection over those of the previous
- 17 fiscal year to reflect the annual inflation adjustment in Social Security
- 18 income, if any. Each such adjustment shall be determined to the
- 19 nearest one hundred dollars. Any resident who is otherwise eligible
- 20 under this subsection but whose annual income exceeds the income
- 21 limits established under subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
- 22 eligible to participate in the program provided such resident shall pay
- 23 a graduated copayment charge for prescriptions in accordance with a
- schedule established by the commissioner.
- 25 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To make prescription drugs more broadly available to senior citizens and disabled individuals.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. JEPSEN, 27th Dist.; REP. KIRKLEY-BEY, 5th Dist.

REP. TRUGLIA, 145th Dist.